MAY 1 8 1999

GROUP 1600



Attorney Docket No. E1047/20006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT EXAMINING OPERATION

Applicant

: Yuan Min WU et al.

Serial No. :

09/083,410

Filed

: May 22, 1998

For

SOLUTION HYBRIDIZATION OF NUCLEIC

ACIDS WITH ANTISENSE PROBES HAVING

MODIFIED BACKBONES

Examiner

: Ardin Marschel

Group

: 1634

AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 16, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

Claim 1, line 20, after "wherein" insert -- an inverse of --, and delete "inversely".